

# General Monitoring Information

## Park Place Timber Sale Example

- ◆ Project goals – generally what do we intend to accomplish?
  - ▶ Reduce risk of high-severity fire  
(increase likelihood of residual tree survival when fire does burn)
  - ▶ Increase forest resistance to insect and disease outbreak
  - ▶ Limit weed infestations to endemic levels
  - ▶ Improve habitat for big game and cavity nesters
  - ▶ Maintain aesthetic beauty as seen from the county road
  - ▶ Minimize increased erosion resulting from management activities
- ◆ Project objectives – what are specific, measurable actions that will be taken to achieve project goals?
  - ▶ Thin forest from an average of 120 ft<sup>2</sup>/ac down to an average 46 ft<sup>2</sup>/ac
  - ▶ Thin forest to shift species composition from 85%, 10%, and 5% ponderosa pine, Douglas-fir, and lodgepole pine to 75%, 20%, and 0%
  - ▶ Construct erosion control devices (i.e., water bars & rolling dips) and grass seed as necessary (to standards based on slope and disturbance)
  - ▶ Spray to reduce weed populations where they are observed to exceed endemic levels

## Types of Monitoring

- ◆ Implementation monitoring – have we done what we said we were going to do (is the contractor fulfilling the obligations of the contract)?
  - ▶ Basal area reduced to 46 ft<sup>2</sup>/ac?
  - ▶ Species composition shifted as desired?
  - ▶ Damage to leave trees minimized?
  - ▶ Development of skid trails minimized?
  - ▶ Slash piles constructed properly?
  - ▶ Water bars constructed at appropriate spacing on slopes of specified grade?
  - ▶ Is someone spraying weeds?
- ◆ Effectiveness monitoring – are we achieving project goals?
  - ▶ Are species regenerating adequately to manage for target species composition?
  - ▶ Does the literature still support favoring large trees and favoring ponderosa pine > Douglas-fir > lodgepole pine to increase forest survivability when fire occurs?
  - ▶ Does the literature still support these treatments to reduce risk of insect and disease outbreak?
  - ▶ Are weed populations limited to endemic levels?
  - ▶ How does the local community feel about the project several years after completion?